

A circular black ink stamp from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. The text "U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE" is arranged in a circle around the date "AUG 17 2006". Above the date, the text "RECEIVED" is partially visible.

Group Art Unit: 3627

Examiner: Oger Garcia Ade

Confirmation No.: 1270

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application.

- Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC**
Attorneys & Government Relations Professionals

- ☐ No additional claim fee is required.
- ☐ An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:

AMENDED CLAIMS					
	No. of Claims	Highest No. of Claims Previously Paid For	Extra Claims	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims	0	20	0	x \$ 50 (1202)	\$ 0
Independent Claims	0	3	0	x \$ 200 (1201)	0
<input type="checkbox"/> If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$ 360 (1203)					\$ 0
Total Claim Amendment Fee					\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Status claimed - subtract 50% of Total Claim Amendment Fee					0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL CLAIM FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$ 0

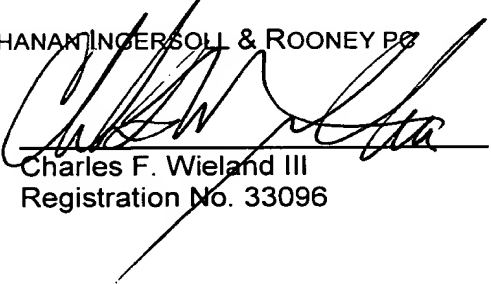
- ☐ Charge _____ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800 for the fee due.
- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed for the fee due.
- ☐ Charge _____ to credit card for the fee due. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN, INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC


Date August 17, 2006

By:


Charles F. Wieland III
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Attorney's Docket No. 1007413-000049



EM FOR
ONS TO BID

Group Art Unit: 3627

Examiner: Oger Garcia Ade

Confirmation No.: 1270

For: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR
MANAGING INVITATIONS TO BID**

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement dated July 28, 2006. The Office divides the claims into two groups: Group I, including claims 1-43; and Group II, including claims 49-56, and 59. However, both Groups of claims have been extensively examined on the merits and no changes to the claims represent a shift in invention that would justify a late restriction requirement. Specifically, prosecution of claims 1-43, 49-56 and 59 has spanned nearly two years, three Office actions, and three replies. Further, a restriction of the original set of claims, resulting in the current reduced set of claims, has already been imposed. Under these circumstances, the Office cannot justify new restriction, particularly under the standards set forth in MPEP § 803, 811, 811.02 and 811.03 insofar as there can be no "serious burden" on the Office if the restriction is not imposed, and a late restriction has not "become proper".

For completeness, Applicants elect Group I, which includes claims 1-43, with traversal, for examination at this time.

Favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: August 17, 2006

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles F. Wieland III', written over a horizontal line.

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